RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 2nd August, 1988/11th Sravana, 1910 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, [Mr. **Chairman** in the Chair

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, there is a report in the press that Shri Arun Singh has resigned from the membership....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 81, I am clubbing with Question No. 95

Persons killed by Terrorists in Punjab

"81. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:†

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of innocent persons killed by the terrorists in Punjab so far during the current year;

(b) how many terrorists have been killed and how many have been captured alive by the Security forces during this period in the course of their anti-terrorist operations; and

(c) what are the details of the action plan to wipe out terrorism from that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a)to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) During the period 1.1.1988 to 26.7.1988, 1381 persons have been killed in incidents due to terrorist activities in Punjab. 202 terrorists have been killed (including 184 in encounters with security forces) and 2433 have been aprehended during the same period.

(c) After reviewing the situation in Punjab an action plan was drawn up for implementation in the State to curb terrorist activities and to prevent infiltration and smuggling of arms etc. into the country. The plan includes the erection of a fence for a stretch of about 118 Kms. along the most vulnerable sectors of the Indo-Pak border in Punjab. Based on the experience, the question of putting up a fence in the Rajasthan and Jammu sectors will also be considered. Besides erection of physical barriers of barbed wire obstacles along 165 Kms. of the border has been taken up. More OP Towers are being constructed and improving/laying of border tracks have been taken up. Gates are being erected in the Ditch-cum-Bund in the Jammu sector to regulate the movement of vehicles etc. across the border. Selected stretches of the border are also being got floodlit. Patrolling in the riverine areas of Punjab and adjoining States is being taken up.

With a view to curb smuggling activities and border crossing, an IGP (Border) has been appointed and deterrent action against smugglers and their principal lieutenents under the NSA and COFEPOSA is being taken. The Police Administration in the three border districts of Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Ferozpur has been improved by creating additional police districts. The Intelligence gathering machinery has been

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Sudha Vijay Joshi.

strengthened. Arrangements for checking passengers and their luggages, coming into the country through Attari and Wagha checkposts, have been strengthened.

Apart from the action at the border several steps like organising of joint raids to flush out arms and ammunition, setting up of village protection force pickets, training of the PAP to work as 'strike-force' and involvement of ex-servicemen and villagers in village protection groups has been taken. The grievances redressal machinery has been activised and a plan for coordinated media campaign to explain the policies and decisions of the Government to the people has been drawn up.

It is expected that these measures, when fully implemented will check infiltration of trained terrorists and smuggling of arms etc. from across the border.

Persons killed/injured in Punjab during President's Rule

*95. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:†

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed/injured as yet in Punjab during the current President's Rule there;

(b) the number of persons in Punjab who migrated from their houses due to fear of violence/oppression during the President's Rule there and how many of them migrated outside Punjab; and

(c) how many migrants have returned back home and to their professions?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Lal K. Advani.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) During the period 12.5.1987 to 26.7.1988, 2015 persons have been killed and 1317 have been injured in incidents due to terrorist activities in Punjab.

(b) and (c) 9282 families have shifted upto 18.7.1988 to various places within the State on account of terrorist activities. 8035 families have moved from Punjab to different States upto 31st May, 1988. 786 such families have returned to the State.

SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Sir, senseless killing of innocent people by the terrorists has gone on for quite some time and the experience has been very traumatic. It appears that the problem has become more complex because of the help received by the terrorists from across the border.

The hon Minister has given the details of the action plan to wipe out terrorism, including construction of a fence along the border, in his reply. I would like to know how far we have succeeded in achieving our object in general, and effectively stopping the help coming from across the border in particular.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the action plan is being implemented since the first week of April, 1988. Most of the administrative measures which were required to be taken have been taken by the Government of Punjab. Measures are being taken along the border.